

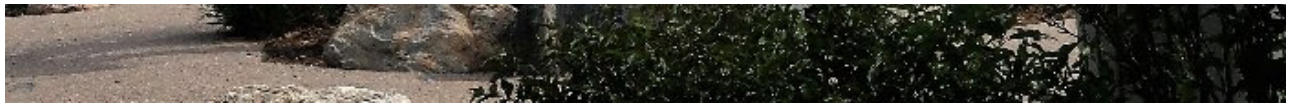


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**Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c) 4 non-profit corporation formed over twenty years ago in order to effectively advocate for the creation or preservation of state laws, and/or policies designed to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable and wise use of our state's immense treasure of high quality freshwater resources. Our primary mission will be accomplished by pro-active participation in Michigan's legislative process (lobbying), by participating in court cases whose outcomes may have significant statewide ramifications, and/or by direct involvement with natural resources management, or environment focused state agencies or departments.**







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Photo: Australian Broadcasting Company

## **Infestations of the Invasive Micro-Algae Species Known as Didymo, or "Rock Snot", are Occurring on a More Frequent Basis in North America**

Forming thick mats that are capable of completely inundating long stretches of invaded stream beds, *Didymosphenia geminata*, also known as didymo, or “rock snot”, is a form of microscopic algae that aquatic biologists have categorized as a diatom. Even within its native geographic distribution range of North America and Europe where a steadily increasing number of infestations are occurring, for reasons that are not yet well understood, didymo has taken on increasingly invasive characteristics over the course of the past forty years. It is important to point-out that although didymo is not considered a significant human health risk, the increasingly invasive algae species that often forms dense brown mats represents an on-going threat to the vulnerable freshwater ecosystems of North America, and their ability to support abundant and diverse fish populations.

Preferring cold, low nutrient streams, the unique micro-algae species known as “rock snot” is considered native to the thousands of rivers and streams that are distributed throughout the eastern provinces and states of Canada, and the United States. However, the disruptive micro-algae species has now appeared as an exotic aquatic invasive species in streams located in Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, Chile, and Vancouver, British Columbia.



Photo: Center for Invasive Species Research, University of California

Like many exotic aquatic invasive species, didymo appears to spread from stream-to-stream via by the gear and waders of transient fisherman. Firmly attached to the solid substrate of invaded stream beds, dense mats of didymo are tan or brown in color, and possess a texture that has often been compared to wet wool. It is interesting to note that many observers have suggested that the unusual diatom possesses the color and texture of toilet paper, which is why abundant infestations of didymo are sometimes mistakenly reported to local water resources management officials as evidence of large scale sewage spills.

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**>> We Need Your Help!!! <<**

## **Why You Should Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance?**

Do you care for your lake, river, or stream? Do you care enough to contact your state senator or representative about issues that affect your waterbody? Do you keep track of the bills that are important to your lake, river, or stream? The good news is that Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is doing this for you. MWA hires a lobbying firm to keep track of issues and bills which may affect Michigan's waterfronts, and remain in constant contact with senators and representatives. These lobbyists have relationships with those serving in our state legislature,

willing to present bills that MWA would support to help protect Michigan's inland waterways, and help to defeat bills that may be detrimental to our waterways. There is an old saying that "you can't fight city hall." This may be true if you do not know how, but with the help of MWA's attorneys, MWA has the experts that know how to deal with legal issues. There have been laws interpreted incorrectly when it comes to our lakes, rivers, and streams. MWA, with its attorneys, has argued these cases when we believe the law has been misinterpreted.

While the MWA Board of Directors is made up of volunteers, it is expensive to hire lobbyists and attorneys. The Michigan Waterfront Alliance membership is made up of individuals, lake associations, and corporations who care about Michigan's lakes, rivers, and streams. Would you like to be more involved? You can by becoming a member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance and by becoming an active partner in MWA. Membership in MWA is inexpensive:

**We rely entirely on membership dues to fund  
the operating costs of our organization...**

**TO BECOME A MEMBER OF  
MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE VISIT OUR  
>>>>> MEMBERSHIP PAGE <<<<<**

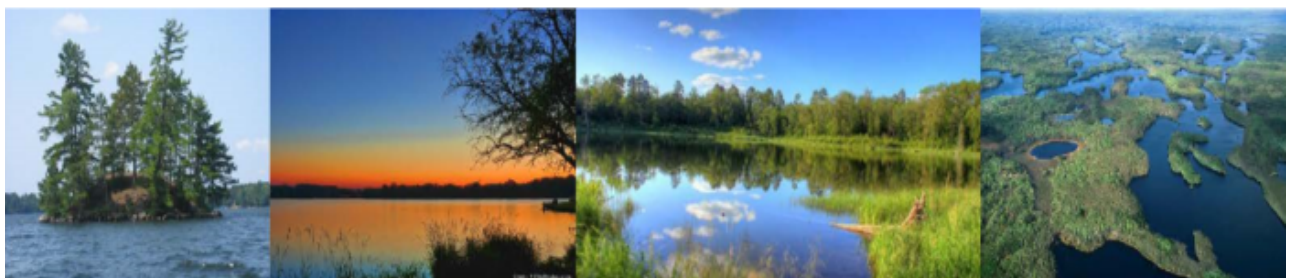
**Annual Dues are:**

**\$50 for an individual;**

**\$100 for a lake association; and**

**\$200 for a corporation**

With support from individuals like you, lake associations, and corporations, we can continue to work together as a unified voice choosing to protect Michigan's water resources for future generations. Thank you for your consideration!!!





## Practical Resilience and Systems Thinking Workshop

Lake organization members and partners are invited to a free, 3-hour, virtual workshop where you will:

- Learn key resilience and systems thinking concepts
- Build a tool box of practical skills for lake management
- Develop a network of peers within your state

Lake organization members and partners in Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin are welcome.

Register for the July 13, or July 14 workshop by clicking on the registration link associated dates.

Participants will be asked to complete a survey, and watch four short videos before the workshop which will include a concept review, tool introduction, and small group discussion during the workshop, and a follow-up survey after the workshop.

The workshop is facilitated by Chelsey Nieman, a fisheries ecologist at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, and Dane Whittaker, a PhD student in Sustainability at Arizona State University.

If you are interested in participating, please e-mail Chelsey Nieman at [niemanc@caryinstitute.org](mailto:niemanc@caryinstitute.org), and please share this flyer with your networks.





Invasive species pose a threat to Michigan's environment, economy, and sometimes even human health. What is at stake? What is being done? This webinar series will explore how agencies, universities and locally led organizations are working together to protect Michigan's natural resources through the Michigan Invasive Species Program. If you are concerned about the impacts of invasive species or interested in the techniques used to control them, join us as we examine species-specific actions, innovations in research and technology, and programs designed to help communities prevent and manage harmful invasive species. A question and answer period will follow each presentation.

## Upcoming Webinars in the Series

June 24, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

### [Big, hungry fish: What's being done to prevent invasive bighead, silver and black carp from entering the Great Lakes](#)

Silver carp jumping into boats. Fishing nets full of bighead carp. Could this be the fate of the Great Lakes? Currently, there is no evidence of any live bighead, silver, or black carp, commonly called Asian carp, in the Great Lakes. Michigan continues to play an active role in regional collaboration to protect the Great Lakes from this potential invasion. DNR Senior Water Policy Advisor Tammy Newcomb will explain the threat posed by these invasive fish, current monitoring and surveillance programs, and Michigan's partnership with Illinois and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide a long-term solution to protect the Great Lakes.

July 27, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

### [Hey! What's that in your backyard? An introduction to Michigan's Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas](#)

Wouldn't it be great if there were a local resource you could go to for help with invasive species on your property? Spoiler alert: there is! Michigan is home to 22 Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas, or CISMAs, that are on the front line for prevention, detection, and control of invasive infestations. Katie Grzesiak, Nick Cassel, and Fallon Chabala, representatives from the Michigan Invasive Species Coalition, will discuss what a CISMA is, how they can help with management of invasives on your property, and the benefits of partnering with your local CISMA.





## **Michigan Waterfront Alliance is a proud member of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership**

### **A Collaborative Partnership Dedicated to Protecting Michigan's Vast Heritage of High Quality Inland Lakes**

The Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (MILP) is made up of a broad range of organizations and agencies that have a common interest - protecting inland lakes. Explore this site to learn more about Michigan's lakes, the organizations involved with the Partnership, and how you can be a part of the effort. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes. Most are high quality resources highly valued by society for recreation and as places to live. These cultural demands place significant stresses upon these ecosystems, often resulting in undesirable changes. How can these lakes be strategically managed to minimize undesirable changes and protect them for this and future generations?

The purpose of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (Partnership) is to engage state and local agencies, Native American Nations, outreach institutions (universities and other educational institutions), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), businesses, industries and citizens in a collaborative effort to ensure the quality, sustainability and ecological diversity of lakes, while considering society's needs. The Partnership will promote communication and cooperation between partners, communities and citizens interested in the management of Michigan's inland lakes, educating leaders, and strengthening stewardship efforts.

The MILP Coordinating Council is the decision-making body of the Partnership. The Council sets the goals of the Partnership, and all Council Partners have a vote in the activities and policies of the Partnership. The Council currently meets four times per

year. Coordinating Council member organizations are listed alphabetically below. Clicking on an organization name will take you to that organization's website.

To learn more about the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership, and its ensemble of inland lake protection focused collaborative organizations, [click here](#)

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## Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance!

- Are you tired of funding the management of aquatic invasive species on your lake that were introduced by recreational boaters using the local MI Department of Natural Resources public boating access site?
- Are you just a bit angry that recreational boaters using your lake are not being asked to contribute their fair share to combat the negative influences of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you worried about the fact that your lakefront residential property values are being negatively influenced by the steadily increasing presence of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you concerned about the fact that it is nearly impossible to find an inland lake in Michigan that does not currently host one or more potentially harmful aquatic invasive species?
- Are you aware of the fact that inland lakes are Michigan's most valuable natural resource, and that our state legislature has thus far appropriated almost nothing in the way of budget resources to help ensure they remain healthy and viable?

If your answer is yes to any of these important questions, please help ensure that your voice is heard in Lansing by joining Michigan Waterfront Alliance today.

[Click here to Join MWA](#)

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Visit the Michigan Waterfront Alliance Web Site by Clicking Here

[Unsubscribe](#)

This message was sent to [roberttfrye@gmail.com](mailto:roberttfrye@gmail.com) from [scottb1952@gmail.com](mailto:scottb1952@gmail.com)

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